



Forest
Service

Washington
Office

1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20250

File Code: 6300/6640
Route To: (6300), (6640)

Date: June 6, 2008

Subject: Waiver for Wildland Firefighting and Hurricane Season from AGAR 58A

To: Regional Foresters, Station Directors, Area Director, IITF Director, Deputy Chiefs
and WO Directors

The Forest Service has been granted a permanent waiver from Agriculture Acquisition Regulation (AGAR) Advisory 58A, *Prohibition on Using Purchase Cards or Convenience Checks to Acquire Telecommunications*, by the Agriculture Chief Information Officer. The waiver increases the dollar limit from \$350 to the micro-purchase threshold to expedite response capability during the wildland firefighting and hurricane season. The waiver allows Forest Service purchase cardholders to use their cards (and convenience checks, if necessary) to acquire incidental goods and services for telecommunications for emergency response.

Purchases outside of emergency response the dollar limit will remain at \$350. Under emergency conditions, those can be purchases with the purchase cards by invoking "purchases necessitated by emergencies" clause as described in AGAR 58A but must follow the guidelines list under "Emergencies."

Please contact Kelly Koeppe at 703-605-4823 in AQM, Tom Thomison at 703-605-4570 or June Lee at 703-605-4508 in IRM, if you have any questions.

/s/ Ronald E. Hooper
RONALD E. HOOPER
Director, Acquisition Management

cc: Kelly Koeppe

